

Meetings: Anglican Church Hall, Goolwa, begins 8.00pm.

Outings: Meet at 8.30 am. Bring lunch and chairs.

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In Memoriam - Judy Saunders - 1918-1995

What sadness I felt to arrive home to a letter advising me of Judy's death in an accident on August 12th. I have known Judy for about 25 years, firstly as a golfer, and more lately as a keen and experienced bird-watcher.

As an active member of the SAOA and the Adelaide Ornithologists' Club, and as a friend, Judy lent counsel and much encouragement in the formation of our group early this year. Although living in the city, Judy joined as a member to stay in touch with our happenings, and kept in contact by phone with comments and ideas. I personally will miss her greatly, and our club is the poorer for her passing.

Judith Dyer

Report on Meeting, Sept 8th 1995, Anglican Church Hall

There were 12 members present, with four apologies, and two visitors, Helen and Nick Marinos.

A film of Penguins on Phillip Island was shown, in preparation for our Granite Island trip, and this led to a discussion about the management of tourists and birds.

There was a lively reporting of birds seen by members. Jim Marsh described many dead penguins seen around the Murray Mouth. Jim said that dissection of dead birds had shown them to have starved to death, and this was perhaps attributable to the recent traumatic loss of pilchards. Two dead Giant Petrels were also reported for our beach area.

Kate told of watching Ibises eating yabbies from underneath rocks on the shores of Hindmarsh Island.

Other reports are listed below.

Outings Reports

Fri, 18th Aug, Newland Head.

About 16 people came to this outing, as we were joined by some Friends of Newland Head. Since these were mainly botanists, we learnt a lot about the truly wonderful wild flowers that made the bush a paradise. We also saw some birds! - including: Fan-tailed Cuckoos, Grey Shrike-thrushes, Superb Fairy Wrens, Crescent Honeyeaters, Grey Currawongs, Diamond Firetails, and many Dusky Woodswallows feasting on the enormous flower-spikes of the grass-trees.

Sat, 9th Sept, Granite Island.

The full moon rising over the sea and the stillness of the night made this a memorable evening for us. Two rangers met us and described the status of the colony before we walked round to the new construction area. We saw groups of penguins collecting and calling on the sea, before walking in procession to their nesting sites. The huge fluffy chicks rushed to meet their parents, and tumbled over rocks in their eagerness to be fed. The construction trench was seen to provide some hazard for the returning

adults, but we were assured that the colony numbers about 1500 in the winter, rising to 2000 at the height of the breeding season. We wondered how tourism will be managed under the more commercial regime to come.

Thurs, 5th Oct, Mount Compass Boardwalk, etc.

Eight people met at Mount Compass, but were discouraged by the weather. This outing is now rescheduled for Tues, 31st Oct, as there are some fruitful and varied sites in this area.

Other Sightings.

Bittern (Hunter's Creek Bridge), pair of Cape Barren Geese (early June) and Spoonbills in breeding plumage, Caspian and Crested Terns, (Hindmarsh Island and Mouth area - Jim); two pairs of Swamp Harriers (Hindmarsh Island - Kate); Fairy Tern, White-eared Honeyeater, Black-chinned Honeyeater (Victor Harbor - Guy); Crimson, Orange and White-fronted Chats, White-winged Triller (between Loxton and Renmark), Cattle Egrets (Mount Compass), Cockatiels, White-necked Heron (Finniss) White-fronted Honeyeaters (between Murray Bridge and Strathalbyn - Denzel).

Notes From the Steering Committee, Oct 6th

We remind everyone that we have entered a float for the Pageant on Sat 16th December, and haven't yet had any ideas for its decoration! Please think about this and come up with some brilliant ideas, and some volunteers for help with preparation and manning (peopling? - birding?). *Please* bring ideas, and perhaps sketches to our next meeting.

Unfortunately it has not proved possible to organise the Barrage trip this year. We hope for better luck in the future.

For Your Diary

Oct 31st Tuesday (Outing)

Mount Compass Boardwalk and Nankita area (rescheduled). Meet at Mount Compass deli.

Nov 10th Friday (Meeting)

Speaker: David Close. Topic: **Local Waders**, their identification, habits and habitat. ***Put it in your diary now!** It would be good to get a good roll-up of members, friends and visitors as David is coming from the city especially for the evening, as well as on the 12th to lead our outing.

Nov 12th Sunday (Outing)

River estuary. Meet on causeway on Hindmarsh Island side of ferry.

Leaders: David Close and Denzel Murfet. Details are not yet finalised, but we are hoping to have available a small flat-bottomed boat for observation from the water. If we are successful there may be a charge.

Dec 2nd Saturday (Christmas BBQ and Twilight Outing - Barrage).

6.30pm - BYO BBQ - Parking in grounds. Barbecue facility, tea and coffee supplied. Bring food, table chairs, cups Christmas cheer, family and friends

4.30pm - informal birdwalks in the area. Meet at car-park.

MAKE THIS A GREAT WIND-UP TO OUR FIRST YEAR!