

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF BIRDS SA

held on 30 September 2016 at the
CHARLES HAWKER CONFERENCE CENTRE, WAITE ROAD, URRBRAE

OPENING

John Gitsham (Vice-President) opened the general meeting of Birds SA at 7:50 pm. John welcomed those present on such a hot night. He said that David Paton was stuck on Kangaroo Island.

APOLOGIES

David Paton

MINUTES

John Fennell moved that the "Minutes of the General Meeting held on 26 August 2016 as posted on the website and on the noticeboard be accepted". Seconded by Merinda Hyland. Carried.

NEW MEMBERS

John Gitsham announced the following new members –
Trevor Ramsey (Henley Beach)
Mary Morris (Hampden)
Martin & Joy Aartsen (Warradale)
Larry & Julia Gruitt (Whyalla Stuart)
James Spiker (Panorama)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Gitsham said that there is a lot of water flowing through Laratinga.

As announced in the e-Newsletter the October Long Weekend campout at Kingston has been cancelled.

John Gitsham provided the following details about the upcoming Bird Fair at Laratinga on Sunday, 23 October:

- Emma Montgomery is the Environment Officer with the Mount Barker Council
- The fair is supported by Natural Resources SA Murray Darling Basin and Nature Connections (John Gitsham's own company)
- Entry is free but a gold coin donation will go to the Birds SA Conservation Fund
- There will be regular bird walks – maximum 10 people
- Birds SA will have a stand
- Speakers include the Mayor of Mount Barker Council and Sophie Thompson
- Workshops
- Food stalls

SPEAKER

Daniel Rogers (Vice-President) introduced the speaker Brian Walker to talk on "Two Weeks in Costa Rica". Brian provided details of a trip to Costa Rica with John Hatch during March/April 2016. Costa Rica has just over 900 bird species with six endemic and 90+ near endemic species. Brian showed photos of some of the birds and animals seen at Savegre Mountain Lodge, Rancho Naturalista, La Selva Research Station, Hotel Villa Lapas, Tarcoles River, Carara National Park, Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve and the capital San José.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Brian Walker showed members a pre-release copy of *"The Wildlife of Greater Adelaide"* by James Smith. The book launch will take place on 6 October. Copies will be available to members at the next meeting for \$60.00 (RRP \$69.95).

BIRD CALL

Graham Carpenter said that Short-tailed Shearwaters and Australian Gannets have been recorded off the coast.

- Olive-backed Oriole – Para Wirra Conservation Park
- Laughing Gull – Venus Bay
- Straw-necked Ibis – Victor Harbor
- Australasian Grebe – Adelaide Botanic Gardens wetlands
- Sacred Kingfisher, Diamond Firetail – Beautiful Valley Caravan Park, Wilmington
- Rainbow Bee-eater – Rockleigh
- White-breasted Woodswallow – Kingston-on-Murray

Win Syson said that Hooded Plover nests along the South Coast had been washed away by the high tides.

Brian Blaylock played a recording of a call sent in by a member of the public for identification. It turned out to be an alpaca calling.

FIELD TRIPS

Lynton Huxley said that future trips are on the noticeboard and that it would be a good idea to phone him before heading off because of the wet conditions.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Brian Blaylock said that two new conservation parks have just been gazetted – Kinchina and Monarto Woodlands.

Win Syson announced that one of the "Rambling Babblers" Kevin Simmons had died on 10 September.

The Flyways Festival is being held at St Kilda on Sunday 30 October.

CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

John Gitsham closed the meeting at 9:25 pm and thanked everyone for coming.

Signed..... Date.....