

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF BIRDS SA

held on 31 March 2017 at the

CHARLES HAWKER CONFERENCE CENTRE, WAITE ROAD, URRBRAE

OPENING

David Paton (President) opened the general meeting of Birds SA at 7:52 pm and welcomed everyone and in particular any new members.

APOLOGIES

Dan Rogers and Krystyna Rowland

MINUTES

Barbara Wheaton moved that the "Minutes of the General Meeting held on 24 February 2017 as posted on the website be accepted". Seconded by David Robertson. Carried.

NEW MEMBERS

Bruce and Sue Lamont (Happy Valley)

Pete and Pat Owen (Crafers West)

Sheila Lewis (Tailem Bend)

Dragos, Magdalena, Bianca & Andrew Moise (Fairview Park)

Emily Tomassian (Aldinga Beach)

Diana Koch (Balhannah)

Narelle De Veau (Port Lincoln)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Fledglings Weekend" Report - David Paton said the first weekend for younger children was a great success. He thanked Kate Buckley for her help in organizing the event.

Members Night 28 July – Members are requested to give a 10 minute presentation.

2017-2018 Committee – Nominations are needed for the Treasurer and three Ordinary Committee Members. Please come and see Brian Blaylock for more information.

The Birder cover – John Gitsham asked photographers within the Association to email their photographs in portrait format to him to become a feature of the newsletter. He thanked Cynthia Pyle for allowing him to take over the cover design.

SPEAKER

John Gitsham introduced the speaker for the evening Colin Rich to speak on "Carotenoids, colour and captive breeding. How Noisy Miners are helping threatened species." Colin studied biology at Flinders University and has been an "A" Class bird bander for over 30 years. He organized the Desert Bird Banding Project and now works for Wombaroo Foods. His father Brian Rich is an honorary researcher at the Adelaide Zoo Animal Health Centre. Approaches were made by Taronga Zoo and Healesville Sanctuary to find out about the loss of colouring of birds in their captive breeding program of the Regent and Helmeted Honeyeater. The supplementation of certain carotenoids in Wombaroo Foods fed to Noisy Miners showed that normal healthy and fully coloured birds could be bred in captivity and this has now been used in the captive breeding programs of the Regent and Helmeted Honeyeater. There are approximately 600 caretenoids known in nature.

CONSERVATION

John Spiers said that there was not much to mention but the new Shadow Minister for Environment is David Speirs, the Member for Brighton and that duck hunters in Victoria were not behaving well.

BIRD CALL

Graham Carpenter reported that there were a lot of Freckled Ducks about and few records of the Eastern Spinebill in the suburbs.

Little Curlew – Bald Hill Beach

Eastern Spinebill – Magill

Australian Bustard – Hindmarsh Island

Double-banded Plover, Red-necked Stint, Sanderling, Hooded Plover (juv.) – Semaphore South

Double-banded Plover – Black Point

White-bellied Sea Eagle – south of Rapid Bay

Little Corella – Adelaide Parklands

Tree Martin – west Adelaide

Buff-banded Rail – Fairview Park

Merinda Hyland commented on watching Spotted Doves eating meat.

John Gitsham said that he recently carried out a survey of Watchalunga Reserve, Finniss for Nature Foundation SA and 43 species were recorded including 3-4 pairs of the Mount Lofty Ranges race of the Southern Emuwren.

FIELD TRIPS

Lynton Huxley details of all the excursions are on the notice board.

The trip on Sunday is to Browns Road, Monarto starting at 8:30 am.

The Easter campout from 14-17 April will be a bush camp in the Mount Scott Conservation Park near Kingston, S.E.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Friends of Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary – Anna Woods gave thanks to Birds SA for help with the group. Membership of the group is only \$10.00. Profits from the sale of the bags goes to the group.

CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

David Paton closed the meeting at 9:20 pm. The next meeting will be on 28 April 2017.

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