

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF BIRDS SA

held on 27 October 2017 at the

CHARLES HAWKER CONFERENCE CENTRE, WAITE ROAD, URRBRAE

OPENING

John Gitsham (President) welcomed everyone to the general meeting of Birds SA at 7:45 pm.

APOLOGIES

Jennifer Harris, Brendan Reece, Colin Rogers

MINUTES

David Robertson moved that the "Minutes of the General Meeting held on 29 September 2017 as posted on the website be accepted". Seconded by Jeff Groves. Carried.

NEW MEMBERS

John Gitsham announced the following new members Rebecca Zahra, Stirling; Steven Langley, Adelaide; Stewart & John Brooker, Glenside; Amanda & Christopher Steeles, Freeling and Vinod & Renuka Kumar, West Lakes Shore

He asked them to show their hands if any were present.

ANNOUNCEMENT

John Gitsham said that a Bittern Survey Workshop would be held at Tolderol this Saturday and Sunday Evening starting at 6:00 pm. Bob Green and himself will lead it.

SPEAKER

John Hatch welcomed the speaker for the evening Jeff Davies to talk about *The Australian Bird Guide*. Jeff said that the book began about nine years when CSIRO Publishing approached him. The Handbook of Australian New Zealand and Antarctic Birds had set the scene previously. From that time he has collected over 500,000 photographs and still collects them. He described how the book is laid out and what is included for each species. Jeff showed several examples of very similar species that are difficult in the field. They included Collared Sparrowhawk and Brown Goshawk, Lewin's, Graceful and Yellow-spotted Honeyeaters, White-lined and Kimberley Honeyeaters, Eurasian and Australian Hobby. He suspects that more and more species that have been recorded on Australian offshore territories e.g. Cocos Keeling and Christmas Islands will be found on the mainland particularly the north-west coast. He said that the main difference between this and other field guides is that the species are not in taxonomic sequence. It was much more practical to group the similar birds together i.e. seabirds, water birds and land birds. This sequence may be used for future overseas bird guides. He went into detail on how the artwork was prepared for each plate. He mentioned that due to pressure from the publishers a number of errors have occurred within the book. He was disappointed with the index that was prepared by the publishers. He said that hopefully all these errors would be corrected in a reprinted version due next year. Jeff answered questions from the members.

FIELD TRIPS (Lynton Huxley)

Lynton said future trips are on the noticeboard.

BIRD CALL (Graham Carpenter)

Australian Painted Snipe, Freckled Duck – Whites Road Wetlands

Pacific Koel – Morphett Vale, Thorndon Park?
Rainbow Bee-eater – Rockleigh
Grey Plover, Brown Quail – Thompson Beach
Southern Boobook – Black Forest
Barbary Dove – Vale Park
Australasian Swamphen – Lochiel Park – eating lerps c. 3m up gum tree
Australian Bustard – Gluepot, near Port Broughton, Keith, Redhill, Bute
Orange Chat – Port Broughton

NEXT MEETING

John Gitsham closed the meeting at 9:20 pm. The next meeting is Member's Night starting at 7:00 pm on 24 November 2017. Please bring a plate.

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

DRAFT