

**MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INC. HELD ON 26 JULY 2022 IN CHARLES HAWKER 130 LECTURE THEATRE AT THE WAITE CAMPUS**

1. **OPENING:** The meeting was opened by the president, Steven Langley at 19:35 pm, who welcomed all members, with 65 members being present at the meeting.
2. **APOLOGIES:** Andrew Black, Brian Blaylock, Karen Donkin, Philippa Horton, Ray Nias, Robert & Rosalie Lawrence and Richard Woodland.
3. **PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Minutes of meetings held 28 June 2022, a copy of which is located in the members area of the Birds SA website, were proposed for acceptance by Steven Langley and seconded by John Hatch.
4. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**  
**Monarto Seed Orchard:** Steven Langley made a request for members to assist with seed propagation in late August for eventual transplanting into the seed orchard.

**Minko Scrub:** Steven Langley advised that 40 nest boxes of various types have been installed, including ones for Owlet Nightjar, Treecreeper, Grey Shrikethrush, Boobook, Pardalote and small Parrot. Installation was carried out by James Smith of Faunature, who has the specialist equipment to install the boxes, some of which are 6m off the ground.

A specialized camera with integrated bird-safe light on long pole, with a long cable and viewing monitor, has been purchased to peer into nest boxes without having to climb trees or disturb the birds. On Sunday, while checking boxes, a ring-tailed possum was captured by the camera already in residence in one of the boxes

There have been two successful Landcare days where large areas of broom have been cleared. The third Landcare Day is on Sunday, 28 August 2022, and members are encouraged to come and help out.

**Minister for Environment and Water, Susan Close:**

Monarto - Steven Langley has met with Susan Close's aide. The land at Monarto has been transferred to DEW, however, they are yet to engage Birds SA for help and assistance. There was a request for details of the current Monarto status to be put in the E-newsletter.

Beach Driving - Susan Close wants the result of the parliamentary enquiry to be reviewed. Steven Langley to escalate issue.

**Location for Library:**

Stephen Langley has talked with Conservation SA and confirmed the location for Birds SA library at the Conservation SA's building, The Joinery in the city, until at least

December 2024. It is hopeful that the library will be open from 1:00 – 3:00pm every other Friday. Details will be sent out in the next E-newsletter.

Volunteers are needed to help Lynton Huxley relocate the bookcases from storage and transport to the new venue. They may also need to be re-assembled.

**Lobethal Garden Festival 31 October:** with the demise of Sophie’s Patch, there is an opportunity to have a Birds SA stand at the Lobethal Garden Festival if we can get sufficient volunteers to manage the stand. Members interested should contact Alan Burns or Sue Winwood.

5. **NEW MEMBERS:** Steven Langley advised the following new members for July 2022

Steven & Carol Delve	Brighton	SA
Jenny Lewis	Blackwood	SA
Amanda Vallance & Thomas Tolley	Burnside	SA
Christine Sedunary	Broadview	SA
Angel Benjamin	Aldinga	SA
John Tickle	Adelaide	SA
David & Ninette Ellis	St Peters	SA
Peter Moller	Lockleys	SA

Also additional members from earlier this year, not previously acknowledged;

Kate McCleod	Aldgate	SA
Diana Gillet & Denis Matthews	Nurioopta	SA

6. **MEMBER’S NIGHT SPEAKERS:**

John Hatch introduced the first of tonight’s speakers David Paton

**David Paton** is a director of Bio-R, a not-for-profit charity that generates funds, knowledge and practical skills to reconstruct habitats for bio-diversity to support native wildlife in degraded landscapes.

David gave a very informative and passionate presentation on the activities of Bio-R and the challenges faced with reconstructing habitats for bio-diversity, with particular emphasis on the Mt Lofty woodland which is considered a bio-diversity hot spot. David stating that without immediate action in replacing native woodlands we could lose the bulk of the current woodland bird species.

**Dr Keith Jones**, chair of the R&D committee of the South Australian Shorebirds Foundation, was next to speak and gave an informative presentation of Team Oystercatcher’s, and other organisations’, efforts in monitoring Australian Pied

Oystercatchers in South Australia to improve the understanding of their Conservation Status in South Australia, which was last assessed in 2014.

**John Hatch** then gave an entertaining presentation entitled “When the desert blooms (“Boom and Bust”)” relating a trip down the Birdsville Track with Bob Sothman and Roly Lloyd, in late May 2022, after a period of exceptionally high rainfall. John’s talk, along with a variety of photographs, highlighted the current ‘boom’ in vegetation and numbers of birds resulting from the high rainfall.

**Jeff Groves** then gave a highly entertaining photographic presentation, accompanied by dry and witty commentary, called “Cockatoo Capers”, showing some of the behaviour and antics of Galahs, Little and Long Billed Corellas, Sulphur Crested Cockatoos and Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos encountered by Jeff on some of his outings.

**Greg Johnston** then gave a short talk about the increasing numbers of White Ibis in urban areas, followed by a request to members for information on breeding colonies within the wider Adelaide area. The aim being to collect data and information to enable a better understand the “perceived” problem with, and how to manage, the breeding colonies of White Ibis.

#### **7. CONSERVATION SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Due to lack of time and Ray Nias being an apology there was no Conservation Sub-Committee report this month.

#### **8. FIELD TRIPS:**

Lynton advised the following up and coming field trips, details of which are in The Birder and on the Birds SA website

Sunday, 31 July 2022                      Happy Valley Reservoir Reserve, leader Ray Nias

Saturday, 13 August 2022              Scott Creek Conservation Park, leader Jim Spiker

Thursday, 18 August 2022              Whites Road Wetlands, leader needed for this trip

October Long weekend camp out is currently planned for Hindmarsh Island, however, we will consider other venues if members have a preferred alternative.

#### **9. BIRD CALL:**

Due to lack of time the bird call will be held over until the next meeting.

#### **10. OTHER BUSINESS**

1 It was reported that Brian Blaylock, past secretary and valued member of Birds SA, was currently very ill and was being moved to the Mary Potter Hospice.

2 The Birder: once again we are short on material for the next issue of the Birder and an appeal was made to members for articles, to be submitted by first week of August.

**11. NEXT MEETING:** to be held Tuesday, 30 August 2022, at the Waite Campus, Charles Hawker Building rooms 101/102.

**12. CLOSURE:** The meeting was closed at 22:00 pm.