

MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INC. HELD ON 29 NOVEMBER 2022 IN CHARLES HAWKER 101/102 AT THE WAITE CAMPUS

1. **OPENING:** The meeting was opened by president, Steven Langley at 19:44 pm, welcoming all members, with 68 members being present at the meeting.
2. **APOLOGIES:** Anita Smyth, Jorji Gardener, Philippa Horton, Ray Nias, Sue Winwood and William Brooker.
3. **PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Minutes of the previous General Meeting and the Special General Meeting both held 25 October 2022, copies of which are located on the members area of the Birds SA website, were proposed for acceptance by Steven Langley, seconded by Jeff Groves and confirmed by the members present.
4. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Steven Langley**

Monarto: Seedlings are growing, albeit slowly. It is likely the first 18 months activity at Monarto will be weeding and weed control. Steven is talking with BioR and DEW re: role and scope.

Minko: 40 nest boxes erected. During the last field trip about 75% of the boxes were inspected, with most showing evidence of interest and some occupied by 1 x White-throated Treecreeper, 1 x Adelaide Rosella with 6 eggs and two Ringtail Possums. LandCare day with possible campout will be held in December 2022 or January 2023.

Vehicles on Beaches: Steven Langley and Jeff Groves had a meeting with the Deputy Premier Susan Close who was very supportive of Birds SA beach driving initiative to have a beach driving permit system and some beaches off limits to vehicles. Susan Close tasked DEW to pull together a plan for implementing these two initiatives which can be put to Parliament by the middle of next year. Steven and Jeff have another meeting with DEW senior executives on 30 November 2022 to talk about how Birds SA would be involved with those plans. It is likely we will still need a public campaign, with BirdLife Australia, and members are urged to support the campaign, details of which will be advised.

SA Power Network: the first set of poles for the priority sites are being modified but progress was delayed due to the recent bad weather.

Whalers Way: will be a struggle and may also need a public campaign. It was noted that an adjoining bay may become a whale sanctuary.

5. **MEMBERS REPORT: Alan Burns**

New Members: there were four individual and three family memberships, a total of 10 new members for November:

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|-----|----------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| IND | PAM SYMES | LARGS NORTH | SA |
| IND | HEATHER WEBSTER | LANGHORNE CREEK | SA |
| IND | PETER JOHNSTON | ALLIGATOR CREEK | QLD |
| IND | NORBERT RENI | WOODSIDE | SA |
| FAM | CODY & KAILEB JOHNSTON | EVANSTON | SA |
| FAM | MERIDY & STEPHEN MALIN | WARRADALE | SA |
| FAM | BRUCE MUHLHAN & RAE WATSON | WHYALLA | SA |

New Membership System: Alan thanked Anita Smyth for her tremendous work in getting the new membership system up and running and thanked Sue Winwood for her hard work also.

Alan reported that the new membership system will go live for the Management Committee on 30 November 2022 and will go live for members in the afternoon of 1 December 2022.

Alan reminded members that the fees will go up on 1 December 2022.

6. MEMBER'S NIGHT SPEAKERS:

John Hatch introduced tonight's speakers John Gitsham, Michael Huxley and Andrew Black.

Steven Langley advised we were trying to record the speakers tonight as a trial for future recording of guest speakers.

John Gitsham was first up and gave a highly enjoyable photographic presentation of a recent trip he undertook to North Queensland with excellent landscape and bird photography.

Michael Huxley then gave a very entertaining presentation titled "Birds of South Korea", recounting a six week trip he took to South Korea earlier this year. The presentation was very polished and professional, accompanied by excellent photographs and videos of the birds encountered.

Lastly, Andrew Black gave a talk on "Bird Names" with specific reference to some changes that are occurring with some of the English or common names of Australian Birds, especially the eponymous names. His talk highlighted the divided opinion on which names should be changed and the difficulty in achieving these changes,

7. CONSERVATION FUND COMMITTEE

Steven Langley reported that we are in the process of appointing new members to the Conservation Fund Committee and details will be provided to members in due course.

8. CONSERVATION SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT: Ray Nias

As Ray Nias was absent from the meeting, the Conservation-Sub-Committee report was held over until the next meeting.

9. FIELD TRIPS: Lynton Huxley

Up and coming field trips

Saturday 10 December 2022 Aldinga Scrub – Leader Bonny Vogelzang (Paiwalla Wetlands trip being cancelled due to flooding)

Thursday 15 December 2022 Monarto and Ferries-McDonald Road – Leader John Gitsham

Easter Camp Out next year will be at Balcanoona, which is in the Gammon Ranges about 600km north from Adelaide from 5th to 11th April 2023. A good rate for the six days has been secured

which includes dormitory for 19 people, toilets and showers and we are looking for a good turn out from members. There are lots of birds in this area at the moment.

10. BIRD CALL: Graham Carpenter

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos being seen over city
Lots of migratory birds up north, in places like Flinders Ranges and Redbanks CP
Button Quail turned up around the city area
Paul Taylor has found an Eastern Yellow Wagtail at Bald Hills Beach area
Gull-billed Terns and Little Terns are being seen
Six Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos at Cumberland Park
Another record of a single Glossy Black Cockatoo in the southern Fleurieu Peninsula
Crimson Chats and Budgerigars at Hawker
There is an opportunity to see how many water birds there are along the Murray as there is a lot of water coming down from Eastern States.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Taylor Hedland, a PHD student, at Flinders University studying Nankeen Kestrels made an appeal for help with raptor surveys on the Eyre Peninsula from 12 -16 December 2022. Any members interested in taking part should contact Taylor.

Steven Langley stated that a previous initiative to help new members and increase the retention rate in members, was to hold guided tours around Laratinga. We are looking to reintroduce this next year with slightly smaller groups of around 8 to 12 members but held more often, say every two months. We are looking for members to guide 1 tour a year each for about 3 hours at Laratinga in the south and Thorton Park in the north.

John Gitsham advised that the Laratinga Bird Fair took place Sunday 13 November and despite the inclement weather that weekend around 300 people turned up and it was quite a successful day. John thanked the members who came to help at the Birds SA stall and said the Mt Barker council are happy to run the event again in 2 or 3 years time.

John Gitsham also said as we know the water levels are high at Laratinga at present and one reason is works being carried out on the sewage and effluent systems. John had a chance to speak with the Mt Barker Mayor and appraised him of the situation and the loss of bird species due to the high water levels. John has arranged a meeting with the Mayor and water engineer and environmental team in the new year to see how the water levels can be brought down to an appropriate level to bring back the crakes, rails and other birds. John will also discuss the possibility of a bird hide in the new wetland on the other side of the creek.

12. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 31 January 2023, at the Waite Campus, Charles Hawker Building rooms 101/102.

13. CLOSURE: The meeting was closed at 21:35 pm.

Signed as a true and correct record



Jeff Groves

31 January 2023